



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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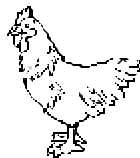
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## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE

Trade sentiment was mixed, ranging steady to weak, but mostly barely steady to weak. Retail demand was seasonally slow with limited features as holiday needs dominated interest. Food service was light to fair. Supplies of all sizes were irregular, but overall readily available and often discounted. Processing schedules were normal to lighter as a way to better balance product availability. In the parts structure, trading was light and limited to regular commitments with supplies of all items at least adequate and easy to secure if needed. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at desirable to slightly heavier weights.

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading declined .25 cents to 62.50 based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 62.00 cents last year on March 28, 2001.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

### DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)

ITEM	
LINE RUN TENDERS	180.50
BREASTS - B/S	135.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	68.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	84.00
LEG QUARTERS	20.50
WINGS	70.50

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

**SOUTHERN** Trade sentiment was steady at best. Retail demand was limited and best for other meat items more related to upcoming holiday; however, some optimism was noted for next week due to first of the month and reduced kill schedules. Supplies were at least sufficient for needs. In the parts structure, trading was mixed, mostly fair at best. All items were at least adequate or available with some discounting to aid in movement. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

**NORTHEAST** Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was mostly of a light and spotty nature as dealers continued with closely balanced floorstocks. Offerings of all sizes were at least adequate to available with the 2.5 pounds in the longest position. Movement into retail and distributive channels was seasonally slow. The market tone was barely steady to instances weak. In the parts complex, all cuts ranged at least adequate to available for current needs.

**MIDWEST** The trade sentiment on whole broiler/fryers remained steady to weak. Offerings were mixed, with heavy weight whole fryers and WOG's fully available and lighter weight product in close balance for immediate trade needs. Movement into all channels for the most part was quiet and very slow, occasionally moderate into a few food service outlets. Floor stocks were adequate to ample with weights in a desirable range. Offerings of parts items were more in balance as processors adjust schedules for the Easter holiday and anticipated downturn in demand. Supplies of breast items were mixed with small sized breast items in close balance and random sized product adequate to fully adequate. Supplies of dark meat items remained ample for immediate trade needs. The market tone was steady to barely steady on whole and boneless/skinless breasts and barely steady to weak on all other items.

**WESTERN** The market tone was weak. Offerings remained ample for immediate needs with sizes less than 3 pounds confidently held. Lower prices available on excess product to help stimulate the fair buying interest. Due to the proximity of Easter and the first-of-the-month buyers' were cautious when securing product for next week's needs. Demand was seasonally moderate to fairly good best for parts. Floor stocks generally adequate. Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak on parts with leg quarters in the weakest position.

### CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

15 STATES			PERCENT CHANGE
WEEK ENDING 03/23/02	2002	2001	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	186,830	184,449	+01
CHICKS PLACED	150,733	150,747	0
19 STATES			
EGGS SET	208,736	-	-
CHICKS PLACED	170,375	-	-

### BROILER EGGS SET IN 15 SELECTED STATES UP 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set 187 million eggs in incubators during the week ending March 23, 2002. This was up 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

### BROILER CHICKS PLACED DOWN SLIGHTLY

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 151 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 23, 2002. Placements were down slightly from the comparable week in 2001. Cumulative placements from December 30, 2001 through March 23, 2002 were 1.79 billion, up 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

### Four Additional States in Weekly Program

Beginning May 16, 2001 four additional States were added to the weekly program for broiler eggs set in incubators and broiler chicks placed for meat production. The four additional States are Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, and Oklahoma. Data collection and weekly estimates began with the week ending April 7, 2001.

Commercial hatcheries for the 19 States set a total of 209 million eggs in incubators during the week ending March 23, 2002. Broiler growers in the 19 States placed 171 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 23, 2002. Cumulative placements from December 30, 2001 through March 23, 2002 in the 19 States totaled 2.02 billion.

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 4-May-02 IS ESTIMATED AT 156.2 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 157.0 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 156.2 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 158.8 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 58.88 CENTS PER POUND.

MARCH 26, 2002

## SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

MARCH 27, 2002

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	768	113.00-188.00	115-123	121.06
TENDERLOINS	110	130.00-195.00	130-135	148.74
BREAST - LINE RUN	107	64.00-68.00	64-65	66.11
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	88	25.00-37.00	25-26	26.09
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	391	13.00-18.00	13-14	13.40
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,456	15.00-25.50	17-19	18.22
WINGS (WHOLE)	297	56.00-73.00	68-69	69.95
WINGS (CUT)	392	74.00-85.00	77-79	79.11
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	823	113.00-188.00	118-123	121.27
TENDERLOINS	86	130.00-195.00	130-135	153.38
BREAST - LINE RUN	100	63.00-68.00	63-65	66.10
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	88	25.00-37.00	25-26	26.09
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	391	13.00-18.00	13-14	13.63
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,376	15.00-25.50	17-19	19.11
WINGS (WHOLE)	297	55.00-72.00	68-69	69.16
WINGS (CUT)	371	73.00-85.00	77-78	78.49
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

\*\*\*\*\*  
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
37.00 - 41.50	38.04	34.00 - 40.50	36.65	38.03

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

## NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity was very light during midweek trading as dealers attempted to remain as lean as possible heading toward the holiday weekend. In addition, product was available across the board and freshness was increasingly a concern. Offerings of breast items were at least adequate to available. Wings were fully adequate. Legs and leg quarters were ample and thighs were starting to build at some locations. Movement through retail and distributive channels remained seasonally slow. The market tone was barely steady to instances weak. Trade sentiment was cautious.

\*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES MARCH 26, 2002

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	120-125	116.76	344,720
TENDERLOINS	125-130	132.56	86,510
BREAST - WITH RIBS	61-62	65.32	186,840
BREAST - LINE RUN	61	59.94	134,160
LEGS	33-34	35.01	149,120
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	18-19	18.24	528,651
DRUMSTICKS	33-34	34.29	108,910
THIGHS	26-27	30.30	52,850
B/S THIGHS	83-84	79.89	66,280
WINGS (WHOLE)	65-66	62.35	279,880
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.05	69,720
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	20-25	21.17	19,975
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	43.39	31,250

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	120	123.60	303,070
TENDERLOINS	125-130	128.73	56,670
BREAST - WITH RIBS	59-60	68.01	167,880
BREAST - LINE RUN	59	57.42	193,120
LEGS	32-33	37.34	114,840
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	17-18	18.42	242,177
DRUMSTICKS	32-33	34.93	77,350
THIGHS	25-26	31.44	56,820
B/S THIGHS	81-82	78.13	88,840
WINGS (WHOLE)	64-65	66.69	250,780
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.90	29,960
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	20-25	24.16	11,680
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	44.26	34,760

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

\* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

\*\* WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

## ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED	ACTUAL	AVG WTS	ACTUAL	AVG WTS
	03/27	03/26	03/25	03/22	03/25
ALA	3,859	4,057	3,987	3,765	5.00
ARK	5,316	5,373	5,018	5,044	5.02
DELMARVA	2,337	2,129	2,413	1,963	6.03
KY-LA-TN	2,041	1,887	1,960	1,994	4.69
MISS	2,683	2,458	2,761	2,641	5.31
NC	2,337	2,601	2,413	2,382	6.03
TEXAS	2,407	2,398	2,268	2,420	5.04
TOTAL	20,980	20,903	20,820	20,209	5.26
MON-WED 62,874 (A)					4.97
					20,196
					5.15

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 27-Mar 02 and is estimated to be 31,388,000 up 3.57 percent from a week ago and up 3.3 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,306,000; last year 30,380,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY  
DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	86-88
ROASTERS 4# & UP	85-90
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	75
DUCKS	139
RABBITS-WHOLE	-
RABBITS-CUT UP	-

## SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

## DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	ICE PACK	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS		93-94
	DRY PACK	95-102
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104-113
	DRY PACK	113
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	94-98
	DRY PACK	-
DUCKS		152-166

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER**

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 27-Mar-02

	CURRENT WEEK 03/23/02 (1)	PREVIOUS WEEK 03/16/02
CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	

BRO-FRY	154,490(2)	155,461
LT HENS	1,949	1,977
HVY HENS	1,293	1,407
CHECK TOTAL	157,732	158,845

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 30-Mar-02 is 155.9 million head compared to 152.1 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 154.8 million head or 1.1 million less than estimated available. For week of 06-Apr-02 the estimated available is 157.9 million head.

**WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS**  
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 25-Mar-02	166,321	75,071
AM 1-Mar-02	141,676	77,105
CHG	24,645	-2,034
PCT CHG	17	-3

**COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT** (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	03/25/02	03/18/02	03/26/01	03/25/02	03/18/02	03/26/01
<b>PACIFIC COAST LOS ANGELES</b>	18,055	12,953	14,650	3,892	3,911	6,233
	89	84	174	2,140	2,383	2,782

**CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS**

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF MARCH 27, 2002

HENS ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	RANGE 57-60
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	60-69

**HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES**

	LOW HIGH AVG				FOR 3/27/02 LOW HIGH AVG		
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.35	1.00	.60	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	5.25	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	.75	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	.65	.95	.80	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	.80	1.80	1.33	BANTAMS ea.	2.00	8.00	-
BROILERS lb.	.40	.90	.62	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	.40	1.35	.72	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	.40	1.15	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	2.00	9.50	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.65	1.65	1.14	ROOSTERS ea.	-	3.25	-
GEESE lb.	.20	.50	.35	GEESE ea.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	.85	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-	-
DUCKS lb..40	-	1.50	1.26	DUCKS ea.	1.50	5.50	-
RABBITS lb.	.25	1.85	1.40	RABBITS ea.	3.00	5.50	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	3.00	5.50	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	5.00	7.50	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	1.25	3.25	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
SILKIES lb.	-	-	-	SILKIES ea.	2.00	2.75	-
GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-	GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	2.75	-

TOTAL COOPS 223

**MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City**

Cents per pound for the week ending March 22, 2002

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs W/ Thighs	Necks, Backs & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards
<b>Hens</b>					
RAYON					
Low	62.83	140.73	80.42	20.10	20.10
45.24 High	67.85	150.79	90.47	25.13	80.42
25.13	45.24	Mostly	66.85	150.79	80.42
20.10	25.13	45.24			
<b>SAN JUAN</b>					
Low	64.84	140.73	85.45	30.16	15.08
47.75 High	67.85	155.81	105.55	40.21	95.50
20.10	47.75	Mostly	65.34	150.79	95.50
35.18	17.59	47.75			
<b>NEW SAN JUAN</b>					
Low	62.83	140.73	80.42	15.08	20.10
47.75 High	67.35	150.79	90.47	25.13	80.42
25.13	47.75	Mostly	66.35	140.73	80.42
20.10	25.13	47.75			
<b>BECERRA</b>					
Low	64.34	140.73	90.47	35.18	15.08
50.26 High	67.85	150.79	105.55	40.21	100.52
20.10	50.26	Mostly	65.34	145.76	100.52
37.70	20.10	50.26			

**DELMARVA**

Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was spotty at best. Seller offerings were readily available, competitively priced and slow to clear. Live supplies were at least moderate; weights were mostly desirable to heavy. Processing schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 47 to 61 cents. Trade sentiment remained weak. In the parts complex, supplies were generally noted as at least fully adequate to ample on all cuts.

\*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

	BRANDED U.S. GRADE A
RANGE	42-62
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	49.75
NO. OF BOXES	8,274

\*8 of 8 plants reporting.

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